

The Collegian

The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College

Volume 49, Issue 8

Wednesday, January 29, 1997

Building a dream



Workers continue construction on the new Science and Engineering Technology Building. Final completion of the building is scheduled for Fall 1998.

Photo by: Warren Weeks

Blood wanted

UTB/TSC hosts blood drive

Felipe Sol Garcia
Staff Writer

Riddle: What is wet, comes in four types, and the community lacks the donation of?

The answer...blood.

The United Blood Services (UBS) will have a Blood Drive on Feb. 4 and 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the TV Room in the Student Center.

According to a report released by the UBS, less than five percent of the Rio Grande Valley chooses to donate blood. Approximately four million

people need blood each year, the report stated, one patient every twelve seconds, and the majority would die without it.

"The result," Ivo Linda Rodriguez, a Donor Technician at the McAllen based office, said, "is that when you, a friend, or a family member is in need of blood, there is an insufficient amount."

One of the reasons that people dislike donating blood is because of a fear of needles, Hector Iracheta, Health

...see "Blood", p. 4

Police search for culprits of vandalized vehicles

Jared L. Treviño
Sports Editor

Auto theft has gone down since last year, but vandalism of vehicles is six times higher than usual, according to statistical reports from the Campus Police office.

"Auto theft has gone down from 17 cars stolen the previous year to only eight this past year," Juan Cardoza, Chief of Campus Police, said.

However, 12 cars have been broken into since the first of January, and most have had items stolen out of them, according to police reports.

"One or two car break-ins a month is average, but this is way too much," Cardoza said.

This high rate of vandalism and theft has prompted Cardoza to up security to catch the culprits, he said.

"I have people on stakeouts and people working overtime trying to catch these guys," he said.

Despite the extra efforts, they have yet to arrest anyone, but they do have suspects, Cardoza commented.

There is not really enough manpower to effectively cover campus at this time, but there will be five new officers trained, Cardoza added.

"As of this new year, I received funding for two additional officers and was granted three more officers by the administration," he said.

The officers will not be able to start work until after the summer, when they complete their training, he added.

Cardoza urged everyone to take precautionary measures to avoid theft and vandalism of their vehicles.

"Don't leave anything visible; lock it in your trunk or take it with you," he said.

Anyone seeing suspicious activity in the parking lots or on campus should report it immediately, Cardoza said.

"Either stop an officer, or go by the office (Campus Police located in Cavalry) if you see anything but don't approach them, it's too dangerous," he said.

Parking citation grace period ends

The Campus Police have been understanding so far, but this week they are issuing citations to whoever is illegally parked, Chief of Campus Police Juan Cardoza said.

"We issued 5,800 citations last year, but we are hoping this will come down (this year)," he commented.

Tickets will be issued to students, staff and faculty who are double-parked, parked in the wrong area, or for no displayed parking permit. Students who do not pay their citations will be blocked from phone registration until they pay the fine, Cardoza said. A boot lock will be installed on the vehicles that have five or more unpaid citations, he added.

"For those students who didn't purchase a parking permit (and park on campus), don't think we won't find them," he said, "We will just turn them over to the Brownsville Police Department."

Many students complain about buying parking permits because they said there is not any parking available. But this is not true, according to Cardoza. "Go down Ridgely Road; there are about 40 spaces that are left empty..." he said.

The University is working on acquiring land to help alleviate the parking problem, Cardoza added.

On Campus

World News

Peru's Rebel Hostage Takeover

With still 73 hostages, Peru has taken more security, but still no talks on releasing the 300 imprisoned guerrilla fighters. President Fujimori reported on Wednesday that there will not be talks of releasing the rebels until the guerrillas give up the idea and let the hostages free.

Soldier Quits

The soldier who sparked the investigation of what is the a big military scandal, is leaving the army. Jessica Bleckley, the 18 year old was given an honorable discharge.

The killings continue

The Rwandan army has struck again, this time killing up to 350 people. The attacks were intended to eliminate Hutu militants accused of killing 300 people.

Airplane crash

A small airplane missed the runway at Brownsville International Airport by 1000 feet and crashed Sunday. No one was injured.

She might be back

Tonya Harding might ice skate competitively for another country, like Norway. She was banned from competitively competing in the United States after she pled guilty to conspiracy in an attack against rival skater Nancy Kerrigan.

Winter Texan killed in hit-and-run

Winter Texan Neil Hallus was hit by a truck while crossing FM 1015 on foot and was killed instantly last Thursday. The driver allegedly fled the scene.

Campus Police Reports

Jan. 2, 1997

- An RCA Boom Box Lap Top Computer was stolen from Tandy 219-A

Jan. 4

- A vehicle window was broken in the New Riverside lot.

Jan. 8

- A staff member got stuck in the Eidman elevator.

Jan. 9

- A radar detector was stolen from a vehicle in the Gorgas lot.

Jan. 10

- A vehicle window was broken in the Tandy lot.

Jan. 14

- A cellular phone was stolen from a vehicle in the C-10 lot.

Jan. 15

- A vehicle stereo was stolen from a vehicle in the C-10 lot.

Jan. 17

- A jacket, bank papers and change were stolen in the library.
- A front windshield was broken in the C-10 lot.

Jan. 19

- A clock radio and phone cap were stolen from Tandy.

Jan. 20

- A golf cart cover was stolen in front of Tandy.
- A fight took place in South 122 between students.
- A vehicle window was broken and a Sony CD player was stolen in the Tandy lot.
- A vehicle window was broken and a radar and ash tray were stolen in the C-10 lot.

Jan. 21

- A Black and Decker circular saw was stolen from the Art Building.
- A vehicle window was broken and a radar detector was stolen in the C-9 lot.
- A vehicle window was broken in the C-9 lot.
- A vehicle window was broken on 19th and Ridgely.

Jan. 22

- A visitor left a child unattended in a vehicle in the Library lot.
- A suspicious person was reported in the C-10 lot.
- A vehicle window was broken and a Uniden radar detector was stolen on 17th and Ridgely.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday

Join-A-Club Day takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Student Center Courtyard.

Friday, Jan. 31

Meet the Scorpions Baseball Rally at noon on the South Hall lawn.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the TV Room.

• Phi Alpha Theta will sponsor a guest speaker on Ethiopian History at 7 p.m. in South 301.

Wednesday, Feb. 5

Blood Drive from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the TV Room.
• Club Food Sales from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Paseo.

Thursday, Feb. 6

Owls Breakout from 8:15 p.m. to 8:45 in the Endowment Courtyard.

Monday, Feb. 10

Bits, Bytes and Beepers, a technology exhibition, will take place from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Center.

Briefly speaking...

Patron of the Arts this Month

Patron of the Arts presents Antonio Briseño, tenor and Richard Urbis, pianist, premiering "Saving Daylight Time: Songs from a Border Town" by TenBroeck Davison and David Patterson Saturday, Feb. 1st 8 p.m. in the Music Building. The public is invited and admission is free. Also, a Jazz concert featuring Trio de Madera will take place Sunday, Feb. 2 at the Music Building. Non-member admission is \$7 for adults, \$4 for students and senior citizens, and children under the age of 18.

Rodeo comes to the Valley

The PRCA Rodeo starts Friday, Jan 31 at 3 p.m. with a parade in downtown Los Fresnos, with the actual rodeo starting at 6 p.m. at the rodeo grounds. A C. Lynn Garcia concert will be held at 8:45 p.m., following the rodeo. Saturday and Sunday the rodeo events will take place starting at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the gate.

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On Campus

UTB/TSC faculty and staff help local schools with grant writing

Fifteen Rio Grande Valley high and middle schools received a total of more than \$3 million in grants for academic enhancement through advanced technology, thanks in part to the help of UTB/TSC faculty and staff.

The grants, given by Texas' Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund (TIF), have to be applied for by each school rather than by districts. Each school was assigned a mentor from the faculty or staff to assist the schools in the grant-writing process, Wayne Lewis, Director of Academic Computing, said.

Twenty-eight members of the faculty and staff worked without pay to help with this effort to get money for the local schools, he said.

"We developed an initial model proposal to show the teachers what the proposal should look like," Lewis commented.

He further added UTB/TSC chose to get involved with the TIF initiative because "UTB/TSC, as part of its mission statement, has made a commitment to transform, in a ben-

eficial way, public education." Lewis also noted that students with positive educational experiences early on in their academic careers require less remedial education at the college and university level.

"Our job is to make a difference in public education," he said.

The TIF was created this year because there was enough support to "win out" over telecommunications companies that opposed the TIF initiative, Lewis said.

"The phone companies didn't want to do this because it adds to the costs that are passed on to their customers," he said, but added that the per-customer cost is minuscule - "only a few cents (extra) per month."

Lewis said he believes these TIF grants are only the beginning of TIF's impact on local

schools.

The next Request for Proposals will be entitled Grants for Internet Access for Texas Public Schools, applicable from grades Kindergarten through 12th, he said.



Go Scorps!



Photo By: Walter Vaccaro

Student Beckie Barrera decorates the door to the Student Activities office to show school spirit for the baseball team.

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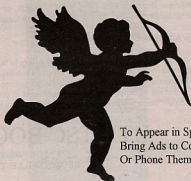
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On Campus

...Blood

Cont. from p. 1

Services Coordinator, said.

"As soon as people hear there is a needle involved, they begin to change their minds," he said. "They picture a huge needle, when in fact it is a small needle, and you don't even feel it."

There is a qualifications list for would-be blood donors, put out by UBS. A person cannot donate blood if they have or ever had:

- Hepatitis after age 11
- Diabetes requiring insulin
- Used a needle to inject illegal drugs
- Done anything to put themselves at risk of catching AIDS

• AIDS or a positive HIV test

There are other qualifications that may or may not exclude a person from donation, depending on the circumstances, according to the UBS.

According to the UBS information sheet on donating blood, donors must show identification that has their given name and one of the following: date of birth, social security number, or UBS assigned donor number. It is also recommended that a donor eat a low-fat meal before they donate any blood, to lower the risk of fainting.

Blood can be donated even if taking vitamins, hormones, birth control pills, diet pills or medications for high blood pressure, the pamphlet stated, unless there is another reason one could not donate.

The UBS also wants donors to feel secure that they cannot get AIDS or any other infectious disease by donating blood.

For more information on blood donation, contact UBS at (800) 759-7885 or 504-3809, or stop by the UBS Brownsville office, located at 2370 Central Blvd.

New computer system speeds up payment process

Ginger James
Collegian Editor

A new computer system installed in UTB/TSC now enables students to receive their financial aid awards much quicker than before.

The new system, designed in-house by the Academic Computing department, links the Business, Registrars, and

Financial Aid offices and allows students' federal aid to be charged immediately after class selection. The process of charging accounts used to take weeks, Albert Barreda, UTB/TSC Director of Financial Aid, said.

The system will also quicken the time that refund checks for classes dropped are

received by students.

"What's very evident and clear is that students are receiving much better service than we used to be able to provide," Barreda said. "I know of no other university or college that has this kind of system in place."

This program is very beneficial to UTB/TSC because

the institution will award between \$19 and \$20 million in financial aid this year alone, Barreda commented.

Student Samantha Torres-Washburn said the new system is much better and quicker.

"This time I've only been here 20 minutes and I've already got my check."

IMPORTANT

TEXTBOOKS:

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT TEXTBOOKS

Why are textbook prices so high?

Textbooks are a valuable resource for students. They supplement and enhance classroom instruction, provide a common intellectual platform, offer additional references and perspectives, and are excellent review tools.

Textbook prices reflect real costs and reasonable return on investment for publishers, authors, distributors, and college bookstores.

Then, why do students think textbook prices are too high?

The most significant reason is sticker shock. Textbooks are free for most students until they reach college. If their book buying experience is limited to paying \$6.95 for a paperback, having to buy three or four \$40 or \$50 textbooks is a shock. After paying a substantial tuition bill, families are often unprepared for the additional \$200 to \$400 textbook expense each term.

How does the UTB/TSC Bookstore set the retail (selling) price to the student?

While most "general" books are sold to stores at a list price less a discount, most major publishers sell textbooks to college stores at a "net" cost. The UTB/TSC Bookstore then applies a standard gross margin to the cost of the book to arrive at the selling price. This margin is governed by the current contract between Texas Southmost College and Texas Book Company. According to the National Association of College Stores more than 87% of college bookstores use a gross profit margin of 25% on textbooks. This is the same margin utilized by the UTB/TSC Bookstore.

How much do used books cost bookstores?

Whether the book is bought from a student, or from a national used book wholesaler, the UTB/TSC Bookstore pays 50% of the retail price for a textbook adopted for the next term.

How is "buyback" price determined?

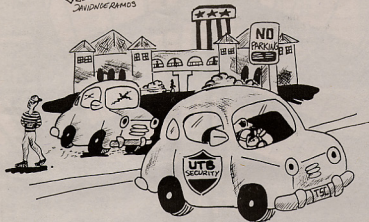
As a service to students the bookstore offers to buy books no longer needed by students. The bookstore pays 1/2 of the purchase price for good condition books which are adopted by the professor for the courses in the upcoming semester. Books not needed in courses for the upcoming semester or books in excess of expected need, are purchased at prices published in the national buying guide. Unfortunately some books may not be eligible for buy back.

UTB/TSC BOOKSTORE

83 FORT BROWN
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Viewpoint

COLLEGIAN '97
DAVID RAMOS



DESPITE SURVEILLANCE, THE SUSPECTS REMAIN AT LARGE.

From the Editor

It's up to us to protect our vehicles

There are few things that are more annoying than going to your vehicle in the middle of the afternoon after class and finding out that someone has broken into it.

And not just a typical pick-the-lock break in. We are talking shattered glass and torn upholstery, causing well over \$100 in damages.

All of this for an old *segunda* jacket with an oil stain on it.

I understand that the police cannot prevent every crime on campus, but my car was the seventh out of twelve broken into since the beginning of the month. And most of these crimes took place in *broad daylight*, during a

busy time on campus. Surely someone sees something. If the police cannot seem to protect our cars from whoever is breaking into them, then it is up to us. Even while the police do their "stakeouts", cars are still being broken into. The thieves have taken CD decks, radar detectors, cellular phones, personal belongings, and even an ashtray. It is very likely that your car could be next. So if you see anything strange or suspicious, don't turn a blind eye, call the Campus Police immediately. Or walk up to the security officer that is watching the area (you'll see him) and point out the break-in to him.

THE COLLEGIAN

The Collegian is the student newspaper serving The University of Texas at Brownsville in partnership with Texas Southern College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of 6,000 students, and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

Collegian Editor: Oranges James

Times/News Editor: Blanca E. Gomez

Sports Editor: Jared Trevino

Arts & Entertainment Editor: Jose M. Villarreal

Copy Editor: David Ross

Advertising Manager: Sally Sanchez

Circulation: Nio Ramos

Staff Writers: Chris Plata, Irma Pava, Tony Gomez, C.J. Netemeyer, Felipe Sol Garcia, Heidi Grunstein, Joel Guzman

Darkroom Manager: Walter Vasquez

Photography Staff: Sanjiv Kadar, Chris Plata

Coordinator: Ray Sanford

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Letters for The Collegian may be sent to:

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All letters must be typed, no longer than 200 words, and must include the name, major, and classification of the letter writer. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters for content and grammar. Any opinions expressed in The Collegian are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of The Collegian or UTB/TSC officials.

Massage versus sex: which is better?

She Said

C.J. Netemeyer

He Said

Jose M. Villarreal

Think there is nothing better than sex? Then you obviously haven't had sexy hands massage your back. If you think about it there are several reasons why sex just doesn't do the trick.

There are so many things that sex can give you, fatal diseases, unless the masseuse is Jack the Ripper, you will never contract. You'll never be called mommy nine months after a back rub. It also eliminates the need to run to your priest afterwards. You will never have to go through the living hell of taking care of another's emotional needs.

For those readers that believe I am full of it take a minute and really think about it. What is more satisfying than lying still and becoming completely relaxed. There are no emotional ties to those hands, and the other person doesn't want a conversation afterwards. It is perfectly acceptable to fall asleep in the middle of a backrub.

For those who wish to contradict me go home, and tell your parents that you got some and stand back. Then five minutes after screaming and yelling tell them that what you got was an excellent backrub and watch the tears of joy flow from your mother's eyes. And for those that agree with me the Collegian is now taking applications for a personal masseuse for me. Please fax pictures of hands to (210) 544-3836.

Hey C.J., you're full of it. I can tell you from vast experience that the main reason backrubs were even invented were to get sex.

Think about it, hot oil rubbed all over your moist body. A warm pair of hands, candles lit all around and just the right sensual music in the background.

If that isn't just another sneaky way for someone to get some then you haven't been around.

I know that all about the benefits of a good massage. These are all just ways to outreason a woman, reasons obviously thought up by some guy, into agreeing to let you put your filthy mitts on her in the first place.

What is more, even though the rules to a Massage vs. Sex are slightly different, they are ironically similar.

For instance, you are expected to talk during a massage, and incidentally you do tend to give away secrets while in this state of bliss. Sounds like pillow talk to me. Once you get used to the massage you want it all the time. And you do want that one person that knows just how to rub.

In the end, no pun intended, you figure he/she has already had their hands all over me, so what the heck. Hence, the massage leads right into sex.

The massage is a very sensual experience and in case you don't know, sensuality is a key to better sexuality. By the way I faxed in a picture of my hands. Feel you soon.

To advertise in The Collegian, call 544-8263.

Feature

Building A New Future

**Grant to fund
new programs,
buy equipment**

Ginger James
Collegian Editor

Walter Vasquez
Photography

A grant of \$1.2 million was given to UTB/TSC to aid in the completion of the Science and Engineering Technology building currently being constructed.

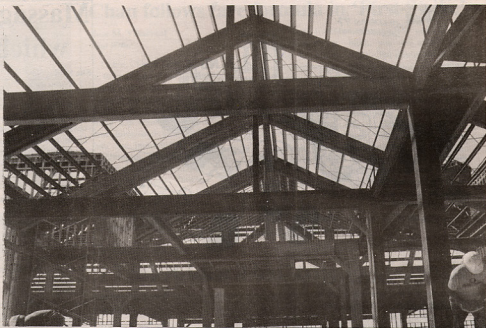
The grant, which was given by the Houston Endowment Foundation philanthropy group, was announced by UTB/TSC President Juliet Garcia at a conference on Thursday.

"This is the first and largest grant ever received at (UTB/TSC)", Garcia said.

It is also the largest grant ever received in the Valley, Letty Fernandez, a UTB/TSC official said.

Attending the conference were Garcia, Chairman of Houston Endowment Jack Blanton, Sen. Eddie Lucio and UT System Chancellor William Cunningham.

Engineering Technology major Russell S. Rocha also spoke on behalf of the students involved in his program of study.



"This school is the only way people like me can get an education," he said, speaking of the advantages of attending a university close to home.

Blanton expressed the need for a strong education base. "The times call for being up with or ahead of the curve," he said, and that a "strong, effective higher education, preceded by a strong secondary education" is

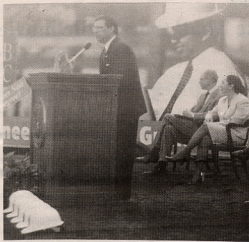
what is needed.

The SET building will be finished in the Fall 1998 semester, but it will be ready for classes in Fall 1997. It will house all science programs, labs, and the new Engineering Technology program, according to UTB/TSC officials.

Feature

Clockwise, from top left:

- The SET building at the beginning of the semester.
- Senator Eddie Lucio speaks at the conference.
- Engineering Technology major Russell Rocha gives a hard hat to Houston Endowment Chairman Jack Blanton.
- A construction worker shovels gravel and water out of the way at the SET building.
- A construction worker is measuring the beams on the SET building.



Arts & Entertainment

Batter Up!



PHOTO BY: MARTIN VASQUEZ

This Scorpion baseball player practices his swing in the gym. The Scorpions first game is Saturday at noon against Laredo.

'Attacks': Lots of stars, lots of blood, lots of weird violence

Jose M. Villarreal
Staff Writer

If ever there was an award for cramming as much as possible into 90 minutes of film, this movie would get it. Starring Jack Nicholson, Glen Close, Danny DeVito, Pierce Bronson, Michael J. Fox, Sarah Jessica Parker, Martin Short, Annette Benning, Jim Brown, and more, this film manages to get so many big-name actors on screen through sheer weirdness, mixed with a liberal dose of sick humor.

Example: The first scene includes a flaming herd of stampeding cows (I am NOT making this up!). Also featured: talk show hosted-headed Chihuahuas, decapitated

tonsil hockey, and scam artists so slimy they'd sell a Rollex (sic) to a marauding alien.

It is highly recommended you see this movie with an altered view. It will DEFINITELY make a lasting impression. Tim Burton directs this Jonathan Gens original script, which is based on (get this) a 1962 trading card series entitled Mars Attacks!, which depicted a particularly gruesome alien invasion.

This movie is rated PG-13 due to some very, ahem, creative violence, so you might want to keep the kiddies at home. Otherwise, make a day of it and leave sanity behind.

Chan follows fave formula in 'First Strike'

Jose M. Villarreal
Staff Writer

Jackie Chan's First Strike is, to loyal fans of the international action star, a return to Jackie's most successful formula: an ordinary Hong Kong cop with more moves than Metamucil gets sucked into an international plot involving the Russian Mafia, Austrian secret agents, the Australian Mafia, nuclear weapons, Kung Fu, and a few sharks just to keep it interesting. Loyal fans will not be disappointed. There is plenty

of fast-footed and fisted action, plus incredible stunts that only Jackie is crazy enough to do. Remember, no stuntman for Jackie in any of his scenes.

Variety is the word of the day for the unusual and exciting stunt sequences. One stunt involved jumping off a hill on a snowboard and in mid-jump catching a ride on a helicopter. Another stunt involved Jackie walking on stilts and then having his feet knocked out from under him by a 4x4. Add in all the tongue-in-cheek humor Jackie

is famous for and, if you blink, you will miss something. The film is not as fast-paced as some of Jackie's other films. It has been slowed down for American audiences and overly dubbed, reinforcing the stereotype about Asian movies being badly translated. Please consider, however, that the original film contained dialogues in Japanese, Chinese, Russian and German. Regardless, action film fiends will love this movie; everyone else—refunds are in the alley.

The film, not the song

'I Like It Like That' true-to-life movie

Jose M. Villarreal
Staff Writer

The new release to video store, *I Like It Like That*, is to be one of the sleeper films for this year. The all-latin cast places the two stars, John Ceda and Laren Velez, as a poor couple living in the Bronx. With cameo by Rita Moreno, this movie is not only full of one-liners but explores the nuances and outright stupidities that anyone with a family would understand.

Lauren Velez has a cat fight on the street with her husband's mistress and holding her wedding ring to the other woman's face yells, "you see this! This means I'm his wife! You don't have one, that means you're his!"

John Ceda gives an equally dynamic per-

formance as an undereducated bike messenger that upon hearing from his "friends" that his wife did it in a Ferrari, actually adopts another woman's child and says to his jeering pals, "you guys act like a kid is the worst thing a woman can give you. It's the best. Everything else is bullshit."

The blurry line between what is funny and tragic disappears in this movie. This is hilariously portrayed by Ceda while in bed with a woman he does not love. She believes he is cursed so he can't make love and to cure him uses an old cure on the affected part. She puts a live rooster on Ceda's inactivated loins.

In the end this is a movie that both makes you laugh and think. About what is important, what we think is important, and who we love.

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Arts & Entertainment

Vehicle vandalism



One of the twelve reported vehicles broken into since the first of January on or around campus.

Photo by: Walter Mercado

Virtual Reality game free for students at Join-A-Club Day today

Joel Guzman
Staff Writer

Students will get a chance to explore the realms of the 21st century through Virtual Reality 2000, an attraction at today's Join-A-Club Day at the Student Center.

From 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., the Student Activities office will offer to any student, staff or faculty that wants to, a free, four-minute ride into cyberspace while never leaving the campus grounds, Peter Ruiz, Director of Student Activities, said.

Student turnout was thought to be a concern, but Ruiz feels that many students will come.

"The student turnout has been real good in past events, so we're anticipating a real good crowd to show up," he said.

Computer Graphics major David Medina said he is looking forward to the event.

"...It will give me a chance to explore a bit of what I want the world to be like."

The games are the most technologically advanced games available, Ruiz commented.

Chupacabra mania sweeps continent

This and That

Jose M. Villarreal

What a Goat-Getter! Nearly everyone has heard of this latest star to win over the Latin American audiences, not to mention a few script writers. If you don't know about the Chupacabra, then you've been living in a cave. He/she/it has been spotted in numerous places around the world.

The Chupacabra is the latest international Latino crossover success story. The mystery monster has now been featured on Hard Copy, Unsolved Mysteries, Inside Edition, countless print media, and even has its own Web site, maintained by a Princeton college student

(<http://www.princeton.edu/acion/chupa.html>). The Chupacabra's e-mail address is (chupacabra@usa.net), where the public can mail questions about luck, fortune and romance. (Hey, maybe it's really Walter Mercado!)

The Chupacabras, or "goat-suckers", were named after its first victims, mutilated bloodless goats found in Canovanas, Puerto Rico. Generally described as four-to-five-foot tall, grayish in color (with chameleon-like abilities), bulging eyes, long punk spikes on its back, and reportedly its able to fly/jump thanks to rudimentary wings. At best, our little friend can be described as a cross between one of the "Gray" aliens of *X-Files* and *Dark Skies* fame, a porcupine and kangaroo.

On the sillier side, the fiend has been spotted stalking and sucking livestock in Puerto Rico, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Massachusetts, Miami, Southern California—basically wherever Latinos can spread the Chupacabra-chisme. Even sillier, Agent Mulder (of *X-Files*) recently set a record for saying "Chupacabra" (pronounced by Mulder, Chew-paw-caw-braw) at least twice per sentence on a recent

episode.

Regardless of who or what the Chupacabra is, it seems to be pretty harmless. Our wily visitor may simply be providing a release from the everyday pressure of life. And as sightings rise, the Chupacabra seems to be rather profitable.

You can cross the border and buy an "I partied with the Chupacabras" T-shirt. Blood stains, unfortunately, are not included. A bar in Laredo has named a drink in the creature's honor; a sort of Bloody Mary. And right here in the Valley they hold a Chupacabras festival in Zapata, legitimately sponsored by the Zapata Chamber of Commerce, every August. They even have some Chupacabra koozies left over from the last monster bash.

The Chupacabra's World Wide Web Homepage is written in a humorous tone with tongue firmly planted in cheek. What a suck up!



ATTENTION STUDENTS!

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Tiempo Nuevo

UTB/TSC conecta cibernéticamente a México

Blanca Esther Gómez
Editora de Tiempo Nuevo

La Universidad de Texas en Brownsville UTB/TSC en coordinación con la Secretaría de Educación Pública SEP, puso en marcha la Red Tecnológica Nacional que por primera vez enlazará académicamente a Estados Unidos y México. Jose Luis Martínez, representante de la dependencia mexicana, encabezó este 22 de enero, una conferencia para dar a conocer el programa que proyecta enlazar a por lo menos 1,400 instituciones tecnológicas de la república mexicana con universidades de este país.

El Tecnológico de Matamoros será uno de los tres enlaces principales que llevarán la señal de costa a costa. La primera llevará la conexión desde la ciudad yucateca de Mérida hasta la frontera de ciudad Juárez, la segunda desde Hermosillo, Sonora hasta San Diego, California y la tercera desde el Tecnológico de Matamoros hasta Austin, Texas.

El Tecnológico de Matamoros se conectará sistemáticamente a UTB/TSC y ésta a su vez proporcionará bases de datos de universidades de Austin, así como de Puerto Rico, Nueva México y Nueva York. El proyecto será coordinado con la Asociación de Maquiladoras de



Jose Luis Martin, asesor en jefe de la Subsecretaría de Educación Pública, Rolando González Barrón, presidente de la Asociación de Maquiladoras de Matamoros y Blanca Esther Gómez, editora de Tiempo Nuevo.

Foto: Walter Vasquez

Matamoros que preside Rolando González Barrón, quien estuvo presente en la conferencia y dijo que la Red Tecnológica Nacional abre un paso importante para la preparación académica de estudiantes, maestros e investigadores de ambos países. El plan incluye el acceso al sistema cibernético de internet y cursos y conferencias que se impartirán

através de video en una interconexión satelital.

UTB/TSC proveerá a México la conexión al sistema internet, mientras que el sistema de conferencias será puesto en marcha a través de la oficina de Telecomunicaciones de UT. En México se plantea la posibilidad de proveer asistencia a estudiantes, maestros e investigadores de programas de bachillerato,

licenciatura, posgrado y estudios terminales.

Martínez refirió que la Secretaría de Educación Pública SEP logró equipar a 300 planteles con la ayuda de Teléfonos de México.

Dijo que el objetivo del programa dependiente de la Subsecretaría de Educación e Investigación Tecnológica, es iniciar con 117 secundarias en el distrito federal.

BREVES DE UTB/TSC
Por
Irma Alicia Peña

Martes 4 y Miércoles 5 de febrero
Donación de sangre
Salón de televisión
de 9:00 a.m. a 1:00 p.m.

Viernes, 14 de febrero
Celebración de San Valentín
de 9:30 a.m. a 12:00 p.m.
Centro estudiantil

Jueves, 20 de febrero
Conferencia de la
Asociación de Educación de
Niños de Texas
de 6:00 a 8:00 p.m.
Centro estudiantil

Jueves, 27 de febrero
Recepción de Mr. Amigo
Centro estudiantil

EVITA

Jose M. Villarreal
Colaborador

La obra musical, basada en la vida de Evita Perón, que siempre tiene el respeto y la atención de l público latino ha llegado al cine norteamericano. La superestrella Madonna y el "rey de cubas" Antonio Banderas desempeñan los papeles principales como contrincantes en la política. A pesar de una publicidad sin igual y sorprende, incluyendo un trofeo "Golden Globe" en la categoría de mejor actriz para Madonna, Evita solamente alcanzó un segundo lugar en los cines americanos.

Lo que debería haber sido un éxito para la cantante, convirtiéndola en una actriz legítima, sencillamente falló la moda para el fin de semana. La obra Evita está firmemente integrada en la historia de Argentina, ya que es casi la identidad de ese país. Aunque en el país de Evita Perón, la película fue todo un éxito, Madonna utilizó una historia tan seria para consolidarse como actriz y a pesar de tanta publicidad, esta cinta se olvidará entre el gusto del público americano, mientras que el mensaje tan sublime de Evita, se perderá en entrevistas y souvenirs.

EDITORIAL

Urge un mejor estacionamiento

En la última edición de *EL COLLEGIAN* en su sección de Tiempo Nuevo, los estudiantes dieron cuenta del malestar que existe, a consecuencia del mal servicio de estacionamiento. En este número en su sección de inglés y en las cartitas al editor de Tiempo Nuevo aparecen de nueva cuenta las quejas de los alumnos en relación a los insuficientes espacios para estacionarse y la poca vigilancia que existe en el campus.

Esta semana la editora de *EL COLLEGIAN* fue objeto de un robo por parte de una persona desconocida, quien rompió el vidrio de su automóvil con el fin de sustraer una chamarra.

Creamos que esta situación es preocupante, ya que nuestro asistente de editor, también sufrió un robo y ambos tenían su carro estacionado frente al centro estudiantil.

Negocios en Español

Blanca Esther Gómez
Editora de Tiempo Nuevo

El departamento de Administración de Negocios inició con éxito las clases en español que se imparten en UTB/TSC a partir de este semestre.

Pablo Rhi Pérez, maestro de la clase de "Elementary Business Administration Statistics", dijo que esta materia se impartirá en español y se continuará normalmente ofreciendo en inglés. Refirió que no existe ninguna diferencia en la impartición de las clases, ya que el programa ofrece las mismas expectativas que el departamento de Administración de Negocios del campus, inglés, por lo que al alcance de todos los estudiantes de esta universidad.

Señaló que las clases de español de dicho departamento son parte de un esfuerzo conjunto entre las autoridades de UTB/TSC y Betsy Boze, responsable de las licenciaturas

relacionadas con la administración de negocios.

Mencionó que no existe ninguna diferencia en relación con los requisitos que se solicitan para acreditar el ingreso de los estudiantes a dichos cursos.

"Aunque son materias impartidas en español, están sujetas a los mismos requisitos que UTB/TSC inglés", dijo, como haber pasado satisfactoriamente el TASP y estar listo para inscribirse en clases de nivel superior.

Pérez indicó que varios maestros del departamento estarían en condiciones de impartir clases de español como mercadotecnia y otras materias relacionadas con las áreas de administración.

Estimó que los cursos están encaminados hacia dos tipos de estudiantes diferentes. El que busca practicar su español a través de una clase específica y el que pretende aprender el idioma que no domina aún, a la perfección.

Tiempo Nuevo

Cartas al Editor

Mal Servicio de Computadoras

Uno de los problemas que afectan a UTB/TSC es el servicio que se ofrece en el salón de computación. Por lo general, ese lugar siempre está lleno, porque tiene la sección de las clases de lectura y también de matemáticas. Pero en la sección de matemáticas también se pueden usar las computadoras para otros trabajos. Esto impide que muchos estudiantes hagan sus trabajos, porque no hay suficientes computadoras en el momento que tienen tiempo para el ello.

Este problema, muchas veces hace insuficiente el servicio que prestan los asistentes, porque hay pocos estudiantes a quienes ayude. Es por eso que muchos alumnos se desesperan al ver que la universidad cuenta con este tipo de problemas. Muchas veces, además de que el salón está lleno, suele suceder de que

algunas computadoras no funcionan del todo bien. Por ejemplo, cuando se requiere entrar a cierto programa, no se puede, o también cuando se va la luz y todo tu trabajo se borra. Y es cuando se complica más esta situación. Creemos que sería una buena solución que esta universidad construyera más salones para que cada materia tenga su propio espacio. Así sería más fácil para los estudiantes porque no tendrían que esperar mucho para hacer su trabajo. También habría suficiente ayuda y lo que es más importante, habría más computadoras desocupadas para hacer el trabajo.

Idalia Villareal y Gerardo Rodríguez.

Aún no hay estacionamiento suficiente

Algunos alumnos se quejan de los espacios para estacionar sus autos, porque el estacionamiento es demasiado chico. Algunos de ellos, tienen que estacionar sus autos en algunas cuerdas retiradas de la universidad. Esta es una gran queja que los alumnos comentan siempre. Otras molestias son de que no hay suficiente luz en el estacionamiento. Esto es muy peligroso para los estudiantes porque se roban los carros con más facilidad y también pueden ser asaltados. El costo para el permiso de estacionarse es muy caro. No hay suficiente seguridad para que se vigile el estacionamiento bien. Algunos alumnos que estacionan su carros afuera del estacionamiento se sorprenden cuando se dan cuenta que los vidrios

están rotos. También hay alumnos que no compran el permiso y que como quiera estacionan sus carros, sin que los multen, lo cual no es justo para los que sí pagan. Pose a esto, a la rectora de UTB/TSC se le sugirió construir un nuevo estacionamiento y su respuesta fue que los estudiantes no van a tener un nuevo lugar para sus autos por muchos años. Dijo además que un nuevo estacionamiento sería más caro y sólo los estudiantes con dinero podrían pagar la colegiatura de la universidad. Creemos que no es justo que los alumnos tengan que quejarse, pero sería una maravilla si se contruyera un nuevo estacionamiento.

Norma Cavazos y Luis Monjarás



Irma Peña Reportera

Los estudiantes de Ingeniería de la Universidad de Texas en Brownsville podrán ser biletados en su práctica. Así lo anunció la Dra. Juliet García en su discurso del jueves 23 de enero frente a una centena de honorables miembros de la política y la educación estatal y local, así como miembros de la prensa y la comunidad.

Ante la presencia del Senador por Texas Eddie Lucio y el Presidente del Sistema Universidad de Texas, Dr. William Cunningham, el Sr. Jack S. Blanton anunció el donativo de 1.25 millones de dólares que Houston Endowment, Inc., donó a UTB para los programas y material técnico y académico de ingeniería.

Russell Rocha, estudiante de Ingeniería, hizo mención a los estudiantes que no pueden ir a otro lugar o ciudad a estudiar por diversos motivos. "Esta universidad es el único

camino que gente como yo tenemos para mejorar nuestra educación", dijo Rocha.

Entrevistado en su oficina, el Dr. José Martín, Decano de la Facultad de Ciencia, Matemáticas y Tecnología, declaró que hay planes a largo plazo para que los egresados en las carreras de Ciencia y Tecnología puedan funcionar en su área de trabajo tanto en inglés como en español, o sea, profesionistas biletados.

"Esto conforma nuestro compromiso con la región que es bilingüe", dijo Martín, añadiendo que el Consejo de Coordinación de Educación Superior de Texas aprobó en fecha reciente los programas de dos años de las carreras de Ingeniería Tecnológica en las ramas de Ingeniería Eléctrica y Electrónica así como en Ingeniería Mecánica y Manufactura.

Este mencionado consejo o THECB por sus siglas en inglés, aprobó los programas de dos años diseñados para cumplir con la misión de preparar profesionistas biletados, informó Martín.

"Con ésto se busca que el

alumno sea motivado al progreso que representa ser profesionalmente biletado", es decir, que pueda funcionar en su área de trabajo como lo que es en los dos idiomas, manifestó Martín, quien agregó que "al tomar un curso de ingeniería en español y un curso en educación general en español, al alumno se le da un certificado que dice que la persona es biletada en inglés y en español".

El Diploma de Asociado (Associate Degree) es un plan de estudios universitarios de dos años que forma parte de la licenciatura en Tecnología Ingeniería o carrera de cuatro años, y sus tres ramas: Electrónica, Manufactura y Mecánica, expresó Martín.

Además de lo anterior, existe la propuesta para impartir la Licenciatura en Tecnología Ingeniería en la rama ambiental y la Maestrías en Administración de Ingeniería y la de Salud y Ciencias del Ambiente, comunicó Martín.



Ogunba recuerda a Martin Luther King

Atim Ogunba, cónsul de Estados Unidos en

Matamoros compartió con estudiantes de UTB/TSC su personal recuerdo de Martin Luther King.

Ella creció con el relato de abuela y su bisabuelo cuando fueron vendidos como esclavos en Richmond, Virginia.

En presencia de estudiantes de la universidad y de la Dr. Eliana Bennett, quien fungió como moderadora, la representante de este país en la vecina ciudad, precisó que para comprender el simbolismo que hay detrás de Martin Luther King, se debe entender la historia de Estados Unidos.

Después de una ponencia que duró más de una hora, Ogunba señaló que como cónsul de Estados Unidos,



Foto: Walter Vasquez

Atim Ogunba, cónsul de E.U. en Matamoros

el significado que encierra la trayectoria de Luther King, hace que su trabajo siempre esté apegado al respeto de los derechos humanos de la gente.

Refirió que gracias a su bisabuela, en su familia, el rezar es una práctica que eleva el espíritu, al igual que King.

Sports

Scorpion Baseball
1997 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
February 1	Laredo	Brownsville	2:30pm (9 a)JH
February 2	Laredo	Brownsville	11:00am (9 a)JH
February 7-9	Corpus Christi Tournament	Corpus Christi	TBA
	Lee		
	National Christian		
	Laredo		
February 15	*Abita	Brownsville	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
February 16	*Abita	Brownsville	11:00 am (1-9m)
February 22	*Galveston	Galveston	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
February 23	*Galveston	Galveston	12:00pm (1-9m, 1-7m)
March 1	*Wharton	Brownsville	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
March 2	*Wharton	Brownsville	12:00pm (1-9m)
March 3	*Lee	Brownsville	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
March 9	*Lee	Brownsville	12:00pm (1-9m)
March 22	*Laredo	Laredo	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
March 23	*Laredo	Laredo	11:00am (1-7m, 1-9m)
March 27	*Bliss	Bliss	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
March 28	*Bliss	Bliss	12:00pm (1-9m)
April 5	*San Jacinto	Brownsville	1:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
April 6	*San Jacinto	Brownsville	11:00am (1-9m)
April 12	*Abita	Abita	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
April 13	*Abita	Abita	12:00pm (1-9m)
April 19	*Galveston	Brownsville	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
April 20	*Galveston	Brownsville	12:00pm (1-9m)
April 26	*Wharton	Wharton	12:00pm (1-7m, 1-9m)
April 27	*Wharton	Wharton	12:00pm (1-9m)
May 10	Regional Championships	TBA	TBA
May 24-31	National Championships	Grand Junction, CO	TBA

Baseball Head Coach: Eric Gonzalez
Baseball Assistant Coach: Javier Gonzalez

Scorpions set to
start new season

Jared L. Treviño

Sports Editor

The Scorpions will open the 1997 baseball season with a game against Laredo at noon on Saturday at the Lon C. Hill Stadium in Harlingen.

Baseball head coach Eric Gonzalez said he feels optimistic about this season, with a new team, new assistants, and returning sophomores that he has confidence in.

"It's looking good; these guys are learning upper level strategies and tactics that will be useful during the season," he said.

The players have been practicing very hard, Gonzalez commented, everyday for three and a half hours.

The games will still be held at either Pace or Harlingen until the new baseball field is finished, he said.

Gonzalez also added that he would like the support of the student body when the Scorpions play their home games.

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